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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : The Plant Protection Centres in this State will be re-allocated at the rate of one for each division of the Deputy Director of Agriculture. The facilities of staff, equipment and chemicals available with the squad proposed for the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Madras, will be available for the North Arcot and Chingleput districts also.

Stray dogs

* 51 *Q.*—SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any tax is levied on dogs in the City of Madras and if so, what it is; and

(*a*) the arrangements, if any, made for the destruction of stray dogs?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : (*a*) Yes, Sir. A half-yearly tax of Re. 1 per dog is levied by the Corporation of Madras.

(*b*) Stray dogs and unlicensed ones are caught by skilled dog-catchers and they are removed in vans to the Lethal Chamber at Basin Bridge and are destroyed by electrocution, if they are not claimed by the owners within three days.

SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : Are the Government aware of the fact that in the months of September and October 1960 there were number of stray dogs in the city and a number of children were bitten by them? Are the Government aware of the number of letters published in the press about these?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : Sir, my attention was not pointedly drawn to it. But I may mention that on a average about 120 to 230 dogs are caught daily and removed to the lethal chamber of the Corporation. I think at this rate the whole race of undesirable dogs would disappear. (Laughter).

SRI S. NATARAJAN : Who is responsible for the removal of stray dogs?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : The Corporation of Madras.

SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN : What is the method of destruction adopted in the municipalities?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : I think they have now the lethal chamber. But in the good old days when I was a student, the method adopted was cudgelling. (Laughter.) I do not think this is now happening anywhere,

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SRI M. ETHIRAJALU : ஜில்லாவில் பிடிக்கக்கூடிய நாய்களை அன்றே கொண்டுவந்து கொன்றுவிடுகிறார்கள். ஆனால் சென்னையில் 3 நாட்கள் வைத்திருப்பதாகச் சொல்லப்படுகிறது. ஜில்லாவில் ஏன் அப்படிச் செய்கிறார்கள்?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : அங்கே வைக்க இடம் இல்லை. மேலும் பெரியவாளெல்லாம் இங்கே இருக்கிறார்கள். (சிரிப்பு)

SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : Did any parent claim any damages from Government for his child being bitten by the stray dog?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : Not to my knowledge.

Fertiliser plant

* 52 Q.—DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether any fertiliser plant has been erected at Avadi;

(b) if so, whether it is inspected periodically by the Public Health authorities to study its effect on public health;

(c) when it was last inspected; and

(d) to place a copy of the Inspection Report on the table of the House?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : (a) & (b) Yes.

(c) 15th December 1960.

(d) A copy * of the inspection report is placed on the table of the House.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Has the firm made further improvements in the disposal of the waste from the factory since we discussed it here last time?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : They have made arrangements to take it by lorries. There is slight leakage during transit and to avoid that they say they have adopted some better arrangement. Some time, two or three months must pass, to see whether there has been any real improvement. If there is no improvement then we will take further action.

Calendar and diary

* 53 Q.—VIDWAN T. MUTHUKANNAPPAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Electricity be pleased to state—

(a) whether any calendar and diary are published every year by the Government;

(b) if so, whether Tamil year and months are also printed in them; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH : (a) Yes.

* Printed as Appendix I on page 271 272 *infra*.